



News from **SALEM COUNTY**

Office of Public Information

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SALEM COUNTY CULTURAL & HERITAGE COMMISSION INVITES PUBLIC IN-PUT ON ITS STRATEGIC PLAN

(SALEM, NJ)—Freeholder Beth Timberman, liaison to the Salem County Cultural and Heritage Commission, announced today that the Commission is conducting an on-line survey to gather public in-put into its next three-year strategic plan.

“Last year at its annual retreat, the Commissioners began the process of developing its next three-year plan,” said Freeholder Timberman. “After assessing what had been accomplished through the current plan, we identified goals, objectives and action steps for the next three years.”

The proposed plan focuses on six overarching goals designed to address the County’s needs and at the same time coordinate with the statewide priorities established by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and the New Jersey Historical Commission. The Cultural and Heritage Commission receives grants from both state agencies to fund its re-grant program and special projects.

In its most recent round of grant awards, the Council on the Arts presented the Cultural and Heritage Commission with a Citation for Excellence in acknowledgment of its recent work and projects including new arts programming for Salem County schools, the Music Around the County Concert Series, and the Arts in Bloom Studio and Gallery Open House Weekend. Also, last year, the Historical Commission honored the Commission and its project partner New Jersey Network as the Giles Wright Memorial Grant recipient in recognition of the 7 Steps to Freedom Project focusing on Salem County’s Underground Railroad and African-American history.

“The Commission appreciates the honors it has recently received,” said Freeholder Timberman, “but to continue and sustain our success, feedback from Salem Countians about current and future programming is essential.”

The public is invited to take the survey on-line at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/1214>, which takes only a few minutes to complete. All responses are anonymous and can be submitted through January 31. Questions and requests for additional information can be directed to James F. Turk, Director of Cultural Affairs and Tourism Information Services (856-935-7510 x 8384; james.turk@salemcountynj.gov).